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Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Ivan Simonović (Croatia), on the basis of informal consultations

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B: improving the working methods of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, and its resolutions 1996/43 of 26 July 1996, 1998/46 and 1998/47 of 31 July 1998, 1998/49 of 16 December 1998, 1999/1 of 2 February 1999 and 1999/51 of 29 July 1999,

Having considered the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council,[1]

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B;

[1] E/2001/95.

2. *Recognizes* that the consolidated report of the outcomes of the functional commissions, that looks at the linkages between them and highlights the key points on which the Council needs to consider taking action, is a useful tool with respect to its coordination function;

3. *Invites* its functional commissions to provide concise, action-oriented input to its annual high-level and/or coordination segments, for example by utilizing, as applicable, their standing agenda item on new trends and emerging issues affecting the overall goals within their mandates;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in the next consolidated report, an analysis of the practice of its functional commissions in the preparation of draft resolutions for action by the Council or the General Assembly with a view to elaborating guidelines addressed to the functional commissions on the submission of draft proposals to the Council;

5. *Encourages* its functional commissions to consider how best to ensure continuity in the work of their successive bureaux, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to include a summary of the functional commissions' views, if any, in the next consolidated report;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the functional commissions with comprehensive information on all existing multi-year work programmes and special themes in order for them to maintain and increase their coordination and collaboration at the planning and formulation stage of such programmes, and encourages those functional commissions that choose annual themes for a special debate to take into consideration the work of other commissions;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, when it considers the themes for its high-level and coordination segments, information about the functional commissions' multi-year work programmes;

8. *Encourages* the functional commissions to continue to keep their working methods under review;

9. *Urges* its functional commissions to further develop opportunities for sharing national experience during annual sessions, in particular with regard to the implementation of conference outcomes, and to allocate an appropriate amount of time for that purpose at their annual sessions;

10. *Encourages* its functional commissions to consider, as appropriate and within existing resources, holding joint bureaux meetings to discuss coordination on issues that are addressed by two or more commissions, using information technology, as required;

11. *Also encourages* its functional commissions, within existing resources, to share more systematically the outcome of their work, including through communications among chairpersons or through briefings by the Secretariat;

12. *Further encourages* its functional commissions to identify similar or related topics and, in this context, requests the Secretary General, *inter alia*, to present a joint report on such topics, where appropriate;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, where this is not yet being done, to provide each of the functional commissions, for their consideration, with concise notes on actions already planned or undertaken by them, or to propose steps they could take to follow up the Council's policy guidance;

14. *Welcomes* the attention given by its functional commissions to the follow-up to the outcome of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council and to a number of main themes, issues and approaches, facilitating policy coherence and effectiveness in these areas;

15. *Invites* its relevant functional commissions to assess, in greater depth, the impact of particular policies on achieving poverty eradication goals, and to identify good practices and lessons learned so as to increase the sharing of knowledge, including among functional commissions themselves;

16. *Also invites* its functional commissions to strengthen their attention to the role of information and communication technologies for development in their areas of responsibility;

17. *Welcomes* its functional commissions' efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in their work;

18. *Encourages* its functional commissions to continue to coordinate their work, in particular in areas of common interest, by, for example, biennializing items or making use of joint reports;

19. *Agrees* to take steps to integrate the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS into its own work, based on the decision of that special session, and requests the functional commissions to do the same for effective implementation and follow-up;

20. *Welcomes* the attention given by several of its functional commissions to cross-cutting dimensions in relation to all aspects of human settlements, and invites relevant commissions to seek greater interaction on these issues;

21. *Invites* its functional commissions to provide further inputs into the Council's own work on means of implementation, including the role of resource mobilization, capacity-building, research and data collection, and information- and knowledge-sharing in their respective areas, with a particular focus on impact, gaps, good practices and lessons learned, and the types of capacity-building most commonly sought in the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit;

22. *Also invites* its functional commissions to continue to explore opportunities for effective and productive contribution to their work by relevant stakeholders;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its substantive session of 2002 a consolidated report on the work of the functional commissions.